

**IN THE ABSTRACT:**

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The invention relates to a device for scanning a thread, which is displaceable in the longitudinal direction thereof inside a measuring slot, by means of an optical beam emitted by a light source. The device includes a receiver of light reflected on the thread and a unit for processing electrical signals received by the receiver. The aim of the invention is to develop a small-sized device which is easy to operate and which makes it possible to detect foreign matter contained in the thread in a most selective manner at a high sensitivity. For this purpose, the light emission in at least two wavelength ranges is carried out by means of a light source, with these wavelength ranges being determined by two main wavelengths.